have very very few sectional holidays but to have a large and representative category of public holidays. As a matter of fact I have been waiting after the decision of Government on communal holidays was announced to hear the views of this House in this matter. But this House has not taken the initiative and I am going to ask this House to select 4 members to consider the question along with 3 members from the other House, and one or two officials. They will deliberate during the next few days and finish the matter so that orders may soon be issued.

The Transport Department.

32. *MR. KANNANTHODATH JANARDANAN NAIR: Will the Government be pleased to state:

(*a*) whether the Transport Advisory Committee recommended to Government that the Transport Department should be made permanent from 1st Chingom 1117; and

(*b*) what action was taken by them in the matter?

MR. E. G. SALTER: (*a*) Yes.

(*b*) The matter is under consideration.

Yarn imported into Travancore.

33. *MR P. NARAYANA PILLAI: Will the Government be pleased to state:

(*a*) the total quantity of yarn imported into this country during 1115; and

(*b*) the quantity of yarn imported during 1116?

DR. H. PARAMESWARAN (*Controller of Yarn Supplies*):

(*a*) 28,21,458 lbs.

(*b*) 25,50,352 lbs.

MR. P. KUNJUKRISHNAN (*Quilon* cum *Kottarakara*): May I know, with reference to part (b) of the answer, why the quantity of yarn imported during 1116 was less than in 1115?

DR. H. PARAMESWARAN: I have no information, Sir.

Supply of cotton yarn to weavers.

34. *MR. S. NARAYANA PILLAI (*Quilon* cum *Kottarakara*): Will the Government be pleased to state:

(*a*) whether they have received representations complaining about the insufficiency of the quantity of cotton yarn available to hand-loom weavers: and

(*b*) what, if any, action has been taken on the complaints referred to in part (a)?

DR. H. PARAMESWARAN: (*a*) Yes.

(*b*) Necessary arrangements have been made to ensure an adequate supply of cotton yarn to hand-loom weavers.

MR. P. KUNJUKRISHNAN: May I know, with reference to part (b) of the answer, what are the arrangements that were made?

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DR. H. PARAMESWARAN: Government have arranged for a further supply and such supplies have been received from various sources. We stand now assured of a further supply of 1800 bales till the month of July 1942.

Control of the prices of cotton yarn.

35. ***MR. KANNANTHODATH JANARDANAN NAIR:** Will the Government be pleased to state:

(*a*) whether they have controlled the prices of cotton yarn;

(*b*) the price or prices fixed by the Controller;

(*c*) whether yarn is at present sold at that price; and

(*d*) what steps have they taken to assure that the consumers will get the required quantity?

DR. H. PARAMESWARAN: (*a*) Yes;

(*b*) * A copy of notification R. O. C. No. 341/41/C. F. S. dated the 25th August 1941, containing the information is laid on the table;

(*c*) Yes; and

(*d*) Arrangements have been made with the Madura Mills and others in the matter for the supply of the required yarn.

MR. KANNANTHODATH JANARDANAN NAIR: May I know whether there are complaints from the people of Chathanoor, Paravoor and Quilon to the effect that they do not get the required quantity of yarn?

DR. H. PARAMESWARAN: I have no information of such complaints, Sir. We have received stray complaints and they have been attended to as soon as they were received.

MR. P. KUNJUKRISHNAN: May I know whether there have been complaints that the sale of yarn was withheld by merchants?

DR. H. PARAMESWARAN: Very very few complaints were received and the aggrieved party was directed to the nearest authorities concerned to get their complaints redressed.

MR. P. KUNJUKRISHNAN: Is there any instruction issued to the local authorities to attened to such complaints?

DR. H. PARAMESWARAN: Instructions have been issued.

PRESIDENT: They are not always understood by the local authorities, especially in Quilon.

Travancore University Graduates.

36. ***MR. G. VELU PILLAI:** Will the Government be pleased to state whether they are giving any preference to Travancore University graduates in the matter of appointment to Government service?

MR. S. N. URE: The answer is in the negative.

MR. K. G. GOVINDAN (*Pattanamtitta*): May I know whether Government will consider the question of giving preference to the graduates of the Travancore University in the matter of appointment?

MR. S. N. URE: Yes, Sir.

MR. KAINIKKARA M. PADMANABHA PILLAI (*Changanacherry* cum *Peermade*): May I know the reason why the graduates of the Travancore University are not given preference in the matter of appointments?

* *Vide* Appendix I, page 103.

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